



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
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MAR 12 2019

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Press Release No. 2019-047
March 2019: World TB Day
Proclamation Signing

The Department of Public Health and Social Services, Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, Tuberculosis /Hansen's Disease Control Program is hosting the **World TB Day Proclamation Signing** on Monday, March 18, 2019, 2:00 P.M at the Adelup, Governor's Cabinet (Large) Conference Room.

March 24 is World TB Day, this annual event commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, and the bacillus that causes tuberculosis (TB).

World TB Day is a time to recognize achievements in TB prevention and control, and renew our commitment to ending this devastating diseases in the United State. In Guam the number of reported TB case decreased slightly from 84 reported cases in 2017 to 71 reported cases in 2018, due to increased vigilance. With the emergence of multi resistant strains of TB, treatment is becoming less effective with the current medications been used.

The Department of Public Health TB Program plans to

- Expand targeted testing and treatment of Latent TB infection (LTBI) amongst our high risk populations; this is the key to eliminating TB on Guam.
- Strengthen TB education and awareness among healthcare providers; misdiagnosis of TB still exist, and healthcare professionals do not "Think TB"
- Implement the use of CDC recommended short course combination regime of once-weekly isoniazid-rifapentine for 12 weeks (3HP) for treatment of LTBI.
- Strengthen our public health laws to ensure treatment adherence and completion.

Today, we have the opportunity to raise awareness and provide information about the importance of TB screening for prevention to the Guam community. TB infection is a real threat. The more people know about tuberculosis and the importance of stopping the spread of the disease, more focus can be shifted toward ending it.

For more information about this event, please contact the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, Tuberculosis /Hansen's Disease Control Program at 735-7120/7131/3602.


LINDA UNPINGCO DENORCEY, MPH

World TB Day

Proclamation Signing

VENUE: Governor's Cabinet (Large) Conference Room; Adelup

DATE & TIME: March 18, 2019, 2:00 pm

AGENDA

2:00pm Acknowledgement of Partners and Stakeholders

2:10pm Welcome Remarks

-Governor, Maga'Haga', Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero

2:20pm Message From:

*-Ms. Linda Unpingco DeNorcey, MPH
Acting Director, DPHSS*

*-Dr. Suzanna Kaneshiro
Chief Public Health Officer, DPHSS*

*-Dr. Janna Manglona, MD
Communicable Disease Medical Director, DPHSS*

*-Dr. Michelle Yamamoto, MD
Guam Regional Medical City Infectious Diseases and
Immunology Specialist*

*-Dr. Edgar Magcalas, MD
Infectious Diseases Specialist*

2:50pm Proclamation Signing

-Governor, Maga'Haga', Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero

-Chima Mbakwem, TB Program Manager

3:00pm Group Picture

It's Time